

#1742

REGULATION ASSIGNMENT CONTROL SHEET

LOG CONTROL NUMBER: 133 ANALYST
ASSIGNED: CAREY

TYPE OF ACTION: AN

TITLE: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY ACT (AT ACT) TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

RECEIVED: 5/16/2002

DATE ASSIGNED: 5/16/2002

DATE DUE: 5/24/02

ANALYST SIGNATURE: _____

COMPLETION DATE:

FINAL APPROVAL: Joseph Schindler DATE: May 23, 2002

Approved

OMB NO: 1820-0572 Expiration Date - 2/28/05

REG PART:

Rudolph, Kim

From: Carey, Sheila
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2002 8:12 AM
To: Rudolph, Kim
Subject: FW: 224B NIA

approve 1820-0572 expires 2/28/05

hard copy in your inbox

-----Original Message-----

From: Nangle, Donna
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2002 2:31 PM
To: Rosen, Jeff; Gregory, Wava; Johnson, Janet; Winters, Deborah; Carey, Sheila; Lapointe, Richard; March, Greg; Friday, Melzetta
Cc: Fein, Judy; Melia, Richard; Corrigan, Frank; Tingus, Steven; Pledger, Connie; Brannon, Ruth; Myklebust, Joel; Fleming, Yvonne; Berland, Betty Jo
Subject: 224B NIA

Here is the short notice form for our NIA for the 224B program.

Can you please review and respond with comments to both Judy & myself by May 24th?

Please send all concurrences to both Janet Johnson & myself.

Thanks,

Donna



224B TA-NIA 02
5-16.doc

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

(CFDA No.: 84.224B)

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation

Research--Assistive Technology Act (AT Act) Technical

Assistance Program

Notice inviting applications for three new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2002.

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM: The purpose of the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (AT Act) Technical Assistance Program is to award grants to entities to address issues raised by States, individuals, Protection and Advocacy (P&A) providers, and other relevant organizations; collect data that will provide information about assistive technology (AT) devices and services that can be used for determining policy; and provide information on increased access to AT devices, AT services and other disability-related resources. There will be a total of three awards made in FY 2002. One award will be made in each of the following topic areas: (a) Technical Assistance to AT Act State Grant Program Grantees; (b) Technical Assistance to AT Act P&A Program Grantees; and (c) National Assistive Technology Internet Site.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Parties eligible to apply for technical assistance grants shall have documented experience with and expertise in AT service delivery or systems, interagency coordination, and capacity building and advocacy activities.

Parties eligible to apply for a grant under topic areas (a) Technical Assistance to AT Act State Grant Program Grantees, and (b) Technical Assistance to AT Act P&A Program Grantees are States, public or private agencies, including for-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

Parties eligible to apply for a grant under topic area (c) National Assistive Technology Internet Site are institutions of higher education that emphasize research and engineering, have a multidisciplinary research center, and have demonstrated expertise in working with AT and intelligent agent interactive information dissemination systems; managing libraries of AT and disability-related resources; delivering education, information, and referral services to individuals with disabilities, including technology-based curriculum development services for adults with low-level reading skills; developing cooperative partnerships with the private sector, particularly with private sector computer software, hardware, and Internet

services entities; and developing and designing advanced Internet sites.

The Assistant Secretary encourages applications from new applicants.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: (INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS: [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ESTIMATED AWARD AMOUNT:

Topic area (a): Year 1 - \$525,000; Year 2 - \$525,000;
Year 3 - \$525,000

Topic area (b): Year 1 - \$200,000; Year 2 - \$200,000;
Year 3 - \$200,000

Topic area (c): Year 1 - \$333,000; Year 2 - \$333,000;
Year 3 - \$333,000

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

MAXIMUM AWARD: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum amount listed above for any year.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF AWARDS: 3.

PROJECT PERIOD: 36 months.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND STATUTE: a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34

CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86, and b) 29 U.S.C. 3056.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

PRIORITIES

Absolute Priority

Under 34 CFR 75.105 (c) (3) and Section 104 of the AT Act of 1998, we give preference to applications that meet the statutory priority. We will fund under each topic one application that meets the statutory priority.

Under topic area (a) Technical Assistance to AT Act State Grant Program Grantees, the project must carry out the technical assistance program defined in Sec. 104(c)(2) of the AT Act of 1998.

Under topic area (b) Technical Assistance to AT Act P&A Program Grantees, the project must carry out the technical assistance program defined in Sec. 104(c)(2) of the AT Act of 1998.

Under topic area (c) National Assistive Technology Internet Site, the project must carry out the technical assistance program defined in Sec. 104(c)(1) of the AT Act of 1998.

INVITATIONAL PRIORITIES

We are particularly interested in applications that address one or more of the following invitational priorities. However, under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) an application that meets an invitational priority does not receive competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

The invitational priorities for the topic areas are:

(a) Technical Assistance to AT Act State Grant Program Grantees. 1) Production of a retrospective summary of the State AT Program from the implementation of the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1988 to current activities authorized by the AT Act of 1998 that includes a description of the strengths, weaknesses and impact of the program; 2) Production of a yearly report about the required and discretionary activities described in paragraph (2) and paragraph (3) of Title I of the AT Act.

(b) Technical Assistance to AT Act P&A Program Grantees. Design and implement a web-based data collection instrument for use by the AT Act P&A Program grantees that will provide data about the P&A activities; train entities funded under Sec. 102 of the AT Act of 1998 in the use of the data collection system; and produce a yearly report

that includes a summary and impact analysis of the data collected with the web-based system.

SELECTION CRITERIA: In evaluating applications for grants under the AT Act of 1998, the Secretary uses selection criteria chosen from 34 CFR 75.210. The maximum score for all criteria to be used for this competition is 100 points. The selection criteria to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package for this competition.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) of 1998, (Pub. L.105-277) and the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999, (Pub. L. 106-107) encourage us to undertake initiatives to improve our grant processes. Enhancing the ability of individuals and entities to conduct business with us electronically is a major part of our response to these Acts. Therefore, we are taking steps to adopt the Internet as our chief means of conducting transactions in order to improve services to our customers and to simplify and expedite our business processes.

We are requiring that applications to the FY 2002 Assistive Technology Act (AT Act) Technical Assistance Program be submitted electronically using e-Application available through the Education Department's e-GRANTS

system. The e-GRANTS system is accessible through its portal page at:

<http://e-grants.ed.gov>

Applicants who are unable to submit an application through the e-GRANTS system may apply for a waiver to the electronic submission requirement. To apply for a waiver, applicants must explain the reason(s) that prevent them from using the Internet to submit their applications. The reasons(s) must be outlined in a letter addressed to: Judy Fein, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3430, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2645. Please submit your letter no later than two weeks before the closing date.

Any application that receives a waiver to the electronic submission requirement will be given the same consideration in the review process as an electronic application.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) (34 CFR 75.102). Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations.

However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b) (A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

In FY 2002, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand its pilot project of electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Assistive Technology Act (AT Act) Technical Assistance Program - CFDA 84.224B - is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the AT Act Technical Assistance Program, you must submit your application to us in electronic format or receive a waiver.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-APPLICATION, formerly e-GAPS) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

Please note the following:

- Do not wait until the deadline date for the transmittal of applications to submit your application electronically. If you wait until the deadline date to

submit your application electronically and you are unable to access the e-Application system, you must contact the Help Desk by 4:30 p.m. Washington DC time on the deadline date.

- Keep in mind that e-Application is not operational 24 hours a day every day of the week. Click on Hours of Web Site Operation for specific hours of access during the week.
- You will have access to the e-Application Help Desk for technical support: 1-888-336-8930 (TTY: 1-866-697-2696, local 202-401-8363). The Help Desk hours of operation are limited to: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Washington DC time Monday-Friday.
- If you submit your application electronically by the transmittal date but also wish to submit a paper copy of your application, then you must mail the paper copy of the application on or before the deadline date to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA # 84.224B
7th and D Streets, SW.
Room 3671
Regional Office Building 3
Washington, DC 20202-4725

- You can submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424 Standard Face Sheet), Budget Information--Non-Construction

Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.

- Within three working days of submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424 Standard Face Sheet) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:
 1. Print ED 424 from the e-APPLICATION system.
 2. Make sure that the institution's Authorizing Representative signs this form.
 3. Before faxing this form, submit your electronic application via the e-APPLICATION system. You will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).
 4. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of ED 424.
 5. Fax ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.
- We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date.

You may access the electronic grant application for the AT Act Technical Assistance Program at:

<http://e-grants.ed.gov>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Nangle, U.S.

Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room
3412, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2645.

Telephone: (202) 205-5880 or via Internet:

Donna.Nangle@ed.gov

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf
(TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-4475.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document
in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print,
audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact
person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may review this document, as well as all other
Department of Education documents published in the Federal
Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on
the Internet at the following site:

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is
available free at this site. If you have questions about
using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO),
toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area
at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

PROGRAM AUTHORITY: 29 U.S.C. 3056.

Dated:

Robert H. Pasternack,
Assistant Secretary for
Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services.